

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. [redacted]

FOCUS Military Information from the Templin Training Area

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EVALUATION [redacted] 25X1X

PLACE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted]

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DATE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE PREPARED 22 May 1952

REFERENCES [redacted] 25X1C

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [redacted]

REMARKS [redacted]

SOURCE [redacted]

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1. Between 19 and 30 April 1953, no new troops arrived in the Templin training area via Densow, Baute, Roedelia and Annenwalde. The training area quartered an estimated 9,000 troops on 30 April. On 19 April, the north section of the troop training grounds north of Forest Section No 160 as far as the forest office at Tangersdorf was aflame, involving even the neighboring areas of the restricted area at Bredereiche and Himmelpfort and bringing the totally damaged area to 1,200 ha. On 27 and 28 April, the main point of the fire was near the Lindenwerke toward Bredereiche. A Lieutenant colonel and two captains arrived from Karlshorst in sedan [redacted] and inspected the conflagration which had also destroyed the fuel dump in Forest Section No 190/191. Most of the fuel was hauled away by trucks. About 20 barrels exploded and two trucks burnt down in Forest Section 173. About 1,000 men of the units stationed at the troop training grounds were assigned to extinguishing work. It was source's belief that sheds for heavy weapons inside the troop training grounds must have been destroyed. The dummy village in Forest Section No 67 was destroyed, too. New earth bunker which were presumably to house tanks were noticed in Forest Section No 167. About 300 earth bunkers were under construction in Forest Sections No 101 and 102. About 50 T-34/85 tanks were seen near the bunkers. According to an order by the district komendatura of Gransee, no practice with live ammunition will be conducted until 20 May. Only some units were engaged in basic infantry training during the last days of April. On 28 April, a VP march column of about 100 soldiers of a VP unit wearing Soviet gas masks were seen in Forest Section No 224. Trucks seen in traffic to the training area on the eastern front of the troop training grounds included [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. Of the installations mentioned by source, the dummy village in Forest Section No 67 is known from previous reports. The [redacted] confirm the units carried at Templin. They belong to headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army including the unidentified AT artillery brigade and the 3d Engr Regt, to the 6th Gds Mecz Div and 25th Tank Div. [redacted]

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of the Second Gds Meez Army is presumably explained by the fact that the military posts of Fuerstenwalde and Neustrelitz are situated near the troop training grounds.

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